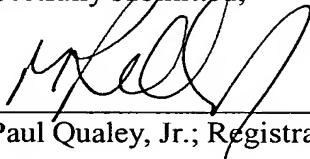


REMARKS

Upon entry of the amendments herein, claims 9 – 14 and 20 - 39 remain pending in the application. In particular, Applicant has amended claims 14, 16 – 18 and 20, has added claims 21 – 39, and has canceled claims 1 – 8 and 15 - 19 without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer. Applicant has canceled claims 1 – 8 and 15 - 19 merely to reduce the number of disputed issues and to facilitate early allowance and issuance of other claims in the present application. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in a continuing application, if Applicant so chooses, and does not intend to dedicate the canceled subject matter to the public.

Applicant believes that the amendments add no new matter to the application. Accordingly, favorable consideration and allowance of the present application are hereby courteously requested. In this regard, a telephonic conference to expedite the examination of this matter is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to call, at his/her earliest convenience, the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,


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